



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COUNSEL

648 KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION  
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012-2713

December 18, 2002

LLOYD W. PELLMAN  
County Counsel

TDD  
(213) 633-0901  
TELEPHONE  
(213) 974-1904  
TELECOPIER  
(213) 687-7300

TO: SUPERVISOR YVONNE BRATHWAITE BURKE, Chair  
SUPERVISOR GLORIA MOLINA  
SUPERVISOR ZEV YAROSLAVSKY  
SUPERVISOR DON KNABE  
SUPERVISOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

FROM: LLOYD W. PELLMAN  
County Counsel

RE: **Jury Verdict in Sexual Harassment Lawsuit**  
**Kimoanh Pham v. County of Los Angeles**

This is to report to you that a Superior Court jury found in favor of the County of Los Angeles, rendering a defense verdict in a sexual harassment lawsuit.

On February 14, 2000, Kimoanh Pham, a 41-year-old woman employed as a clerk-typist at LAC+USC Medical Center, reported that a male co-worker had touched her on her hands, back, and face. On February 15, 2000, the male co-worker was counseled and reassigned to work in a different building. After an investigation, the Office of Affirmative Action Compliance (OAAC) concluded that the conduct of the male co-worker was inappropriate, but determined that it did not constitute sexual harassment. In June 2000, Kimoanh Pham took a leave of absence from County service.

Kimoanh Pham alleged that the conduct of the male co-worker amounted to sexual harassment, and that her leave of absence in June 2000, was necessitated due to threats of retaliation by her supervisor. The County took the position that there was no sexual harassment, Kimoanh Pham's allegations were appropriately investigated, the male co-worker was counseled and transferred, and no threats of retaliation occurred.

Prior to trial, the attorney for Kimoanh Pham demanded \$350,000. We believed that the case was defensible, and rejected the offer.

LWP:GNM:eib

c: David E. Janssen, Chief Administrative Officer  
Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors  
Thomas L. Garthwaite, M.D., Director and Chief Medical Officer